

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 00507 241454Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 INR-10 /025 W
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O R 241415Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4802

UNCLAS PRAGUE 0507

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: N/A
SUBJ: AMBASSADOR BYRNE'S REMARKS AT MASARYK WREATH
LAYING CEREMONY

FOLLOWING ARE REMARKS AMBASSADOR THOMAS R. BYRNE EXPECTS TO
DELIVER TUESDAY, MARCH 7, AT WREATH LAYING CEREMONY AT GRAVE
OF THOMAS GARRIGUE MASARYK AT LANY. PLEASE HOLD FOR RELEASE
THAT DAY ON VOA CZECHOSLOVAK SERVICE. EMBASSY WILL FILE
USINFO FOLLOWING CEREMONY. TEXT FOLLOWS:

"THIS YEAR THE WREATH WE LAY ON THE GRAVE OF THOMAS
GARRIGUE MASARYK ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAS A
SPECIAL MEANING. 1978 IS A YEAR OF ANNIVERSARIES. TODAY
WE RECALL THAT AS WORLD WAR I CAME TO A CLOSE SIXTY YEARS
AGO THOMAS MASARYK, AIDED BY PRESIDENT WOODROW WILSON, BROUGHT
THE CZECHOSLOVAK STATE INTO BEING ON OCTOBER 28, 1918. BOTH
OF THESE TRULY GREAT STATESMEN CHAMPIONED THE CAUSE OF NATIONAL
SELF-DETERMINATION.

"NOR CAN WE FORGET THAT ONLY THIRTY YEARS AGO
ANOTHER MASARYK, PATRIOTIC AND TRUE TO THE IDEALS OF
SELF-DETERMINATION, DEMOCRACY AND HUMANITY, DIED A
TRAGIC DEATH.

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PAGE 02 PRAGUE 00507 241454Z

"TODAY WE REMEMBER BOTH THOMAS AND JAN MASARYK
AND REDEDICATE OURSELVES TO DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES, REMEMBERING,
AS THOMAS MASARYK PUT IT, THAT, "DEMOCRACY IS THE POLITICAL
FORUM OF THE HUMANE IDEAL." END TEXT.
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TAGS: CDES, CZ, (BYRNE, THOMAS R), (MASARYK, THOMAS GARRIGUE)
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